



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

STEPHEN L. BOWEN
COMMISSIONER

Exhibit # VI.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner*

DATE: September 11, 2013

SUBJECT: Federal Qualified School Construction Bond Program – RSU 17/MSAD 17

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Department of Education coordinates the Federal Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program. QSCBs are bonds issued by state or local governments which the Federal government subsidizes by providing tax credits to bondholders or direct payment interest subsidies to issuers. Bond proceeds can be used for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities.

RSU 17/MSAD 17 submitted a 2013 QSCB application and on January 9, 2013 received State Board of Education approval for a QSCB allocation in the amount of \$1,242,063. RSU 17/MSAD 17 originally requested QSCB funding in order to install biomass boilers in five schools. RSU 17/MSAD 17 is currently requesting that they be permitted to change the scope of their projects to include installing boilers at only two schools (Rowe School and Oxford Elementary School) and to include lighting improvements at five schools (Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Harrison Elementary School, Waterford Memorial School, Otisfield Community School, and Oxford Elementary.)

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At the September 3, 2013 meeting the Construction Committee voted unanimously to send this exhibit forward to the State Board of Education with a recommendation that it be approved.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Education recommends that the State Board approve that RSU 17/MSAD 17 be allowed to change the scope of the projects, for which QSCB funds were previously approved on January 9, 2013, to include installing boilers at two schools (Rowe School and Oxford Elementary School) and to include lighting improvements at five schools (Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Harrison Elementary School, Waterford Memorial School, Otisfield Community School, and Oxford Elementary.)

*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team